Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration U.S. Department of Commerce 1305 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing about the proposed Millennium Pipeline Taconic/ConEd Offset route. As a resident of Westchester County, I am very concerned about the impact that the construction along this route will have on our environment and our public safety. FERC is ignoring the serious safety and environmental impacts to our State. I urge you act to prevent this ill-conceived plan from destroying our local environment.

Specifically, the proposed Taconic/ConEd Off-set route would have the following damaging effects in our region:

- 1) The route would cross Haverstraw Bay, which has been designated as a Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat by NY State and is recognized as an Essential Fish Habitat by the federal government. It is a breeding ground for the several alternatives because the preferred route across Haverstraw Bay is the most convenient and inexpensive route available.
- 2) The NY Department of State has certified that the proposed project is inconsistent with the New York Coastal Zone Management Program. Yet Millennium is asking the federal government to overrule this important local environmental safeguard.
- 3) Destruction of trees along the proposed off-set route will have a tremendously damaging effect on our local environment. By placing the pipeline on the edge of the utility corridor and along the Taconic Parkway, the route will require permanently removing trees along a 70ft wide corridor along the route.
- 4) The route crosses several sensitive streams beds and reserves, including Teatown Lake. Many trees will be removed, lakes will be dredged and wetlands will be severely damaged.
- 5) In light of the events of 9/11, the route represents an unacceptable terrorist risk to our region. It passes close to the Indian Point Nuclear Reactor, major NY City reservoirs and watershed, runs along side a major NY City electrical corridor and past hundreds of homes and neighborhood, including the school yard of one Briarcliff Manor school.

Yet I do understand the importance of developing new energy sources for the NY region. That is why I believe that the Bowline Solution is the right solution for the Millennium Pipeline. Terminating the Millennium Pipeline at the Bowline Facility allows New York to protect the Coastal Zone and enables Columbia Gas to fix the decrepit A-5 line that makes up 222 miles or 52.9% of the pipelines 420 mile route. This allows Millennium to fulfill its purpose as described to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission of delivering natural gas to "delivery points in New York State".

The Bowline Solution is a viable alternative that allows Millennium to pursue its goals without destroying our environment and endangering our communities.

Sincerely,	
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Mr. Gleaves
Office of the Assistant Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Gleaves:

We strongly oppose the four proposed alternative routes which would cover approximately 10 to 20 miles of Rockland, going through residential areas and/or along the Palisades Interstate Parkway or the Thruway to either the sensitive Piermont Marsh or scenic Hook Mountain or a Stony Point location. These routes would have permanent significant and adverse effects on the natural and human environment.

PIERMONT MARSH is the largest brackish wetland on the Hudson and includes about 1,000 acres of tidal marsh and subtidal Shallows. Located twenty-three miles upriver from the Atlantic, where salinity is roughly half that of ocean water, the marsh aupports salt-tolerant plants and a <u>WEALTH</u> of other estuarine life.

Yours truly,

Frederick P. Lowell, Jr.

Frederick P. Lovel, Jr. Elsie Lowell

207 Gair Street

Piermont, N.Y. 10968

Bard Archaeology Hudsonia Tivoli Bays Management Area Tivoli Bays Archaeology HRMM Home



HUDSON RIVER NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE

Bard College Field Station, Annandale, NY 12504, 845-758-7010

The Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve

The Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve (HRNERR) is a network of four coastal wetlands located along 100 miles of the Hudson Estuary.

The primary goal of the Reserve is the protection and prudent management of the Reserve's biologically diverse estuarine communities. The sites are managed as long-term natural field laboratories for research and education.

Within the Reserve's 4800 acres lie amazing worlds of tidal marshes, swamps, subtidal shallows, and intertidal flats that provide food and shelter for aquatic invertebrates, fish, reptiles, and mammals. Ospreys, bald eagles, herons, and rails are among the 150 species of birds that frequent the Reserve. Deer, foxes, snakes, turkeys, and a host of other animals inhabit the upland forests.

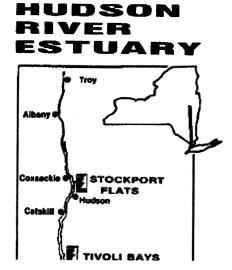
The Reserve program is administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in cooperation with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; the NYS Department of State; the NYS Office of General Services; the Palisades Interstate Park Commission; and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The four Reserve components are also charter sites in New York's Hudson River Estuarine Sanctuary.

THE SITES

The four sites included in the HRNERR are examples of the diverse wetland communities found along the tidal Hudson. For the 152 miles below the Federal Dam at Troy the Hudson is an estuary, a tidal river that ebbs and floods with the daily tides. The broad salinity gradient created by the meeting and mixing of the Atlantic's saltwater with the river's freshwater determines whether a Hudson River wetland supports brackish, slightly brackish, or tidal freshwater plant and animal communities.

STOCKPORT FLATS, the northern-most site in the HRNERR,



http://inside.bard.edu/archaeology/tivolibays/hrnerr.html

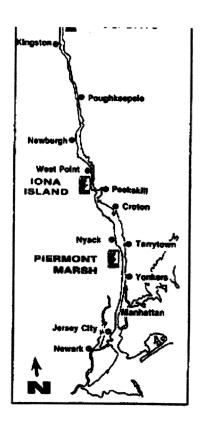
Page 1 of 3

includes five miles of shoreline and about 1500 acres north of the city of Hudson, with a mosaic of tidal freshwater marshes, intertidal flats, subtidal shallows, and dredge spoil islands.

TIVOLI BAYS' 1700 acres include Tivoli North Bay, an extensive marsh cut by meandering tidal creeks and fringed by tidal swamps; Tivoli South Bay, a large, shallow cove with mudflats exposed at Iow tide; several islands; and two tributary streams.

IONA ISLAND's slightly brackish marshes, subtidal shallows, intertidal flats and its upland deciduous forest lie in the heart of the Hudson Highlands, about forty-five miles from the Atlantic. The 560 acre site serves as an wintering ground for bald eagles.

PIERMONT MARSH is the largest brackish wetland on the Hudson and includes about 1,000 acres of tidal marsh and subtidal Shallows. Located twenty-three miles upriver from the Atlantic, where salinity is roughly half that of ocean water, the marsh supports salt-tolerant plants and a wealth of other estuarine life.



RESEARCH

Research activities at the Reserve enhance resource protection by building a comprehensive body of scientific information about each site. Baseline data are used to monitor changes in the estuarine environment and to provide better management of these and other Hudson River tidal wetlands. Recent research conducted at tidal wetlands. Recent research conducted at the Reserve has provided information on:

- Freshwater and brackish tidal wetland ecology
- Estuarine food webs
- Tributary streams and non-point source pollution
- Wetland hydrology and water budgets
- Historical pollutant distributions
- Exotic species

Visiting scientists are invited to use field sites and laboratory facilities at the Tivoli Bays for studies of natural communities and ecosystem processes. Resources available through the Reserve headquarters include wet and dry laboratories, specimen collections, overnight accommodations, and access to

EDUCATION

The Reserve's educational programs strive to increase the public's awareness-and understanding of the vital ecological and economic roles of estuaries and their tidal wetland communities. Programs are closely integrated with research conducted at Reserve sites, and seek to communicate recent scientific findings to decision-makers and the general public. The Reserve's educational offerings include:

On-site

- Interpretive programs and canoe trips into tidal wetland communities
- Educational programs in estuarine ecology
- Teacher field training institutes
- Technical workshops for professionals

Off-site

- Audio-visual presentations
- Informational and educational publications
- Technical bulletins
- Educational resource materials and related curricula

HRNERR Home Page

The Hudson River Estuary Management Action Plan

Bard Archaeology Hudsonia Tivoli Bays Management Area Tivoli Bays Archaeology HRMM Home

Page Updated November 2000

NOVEMBER 27, 2002

MR. KARL GLEAVES

OFFICE OF THE ASSI COUNSEL OF DECAN SERVICES
NATIONAL DEGANIC + ATMOSPHERIC ADMIN.

U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE.

1305 EAST- WEST HIGHWAY

JILVER SPRINGS MARYLAND 20910

DEAR MR. GLEAVES,

WHY WAS THE MILLENNIUM PIPELINE PLAN,

THAT HAS BEEN IN THE WORKS FOR THE PAST FIVE

YEARS, CHANGE AT THE LAST MINUTE?

IT IS OBVIOUS TO THE RESIDENTS OF CRANGETOWN

(ROCKLAND COUNTY) THAT WESTCHESTER COUNTY, WHO

HAS GREATER POLITICAL POWER ENGINEERED THIS

CHANGE THIS REVISED" PIPELINE ROUTE WILL

CAUSE PERMANENT ADVERSE INFLUENCE ON THE

NATURAL AND GLUMAN ENVIRONMENT OF OUR AREA.

WE, THE RESIDENTS OF LOWER ROCKLAND COUNTY

INTENS TO FIGHT DILIGENTLY FOR THE MILLENNIUM

PIPELINE TO COMPLETE THEIR PROJECT AS ORIGINALLY

PLANNED,

DANIEL P. DINAN 23 PARKWAY DRIVE

ORANGEBURG, N. Y.

10962

SINCERELY, Daniel P. Sinan

Hermine and Julius Levine 8 Capri Drive Spring Valley, NY 10977

November 26, 2002

Mr. Karl Gleaves
Office of the Asst. General Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
United States Department Of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Gleaves:

As Rockland County residents, we are angry that we had virtually no notice that the November 13 meeting on the Millennium Pipeline that was held in Westchester would cover possible changes in the proposed Hudson River crossings—particularly since these proposals would directly affect so much of Rockland County. In a democratic country, government should be responsive to the needs of the people and should make it possible for the people to have input into proposed actions that would impact their lives.

We in Rockland County have these complaints: 1. We were not notified in the public media that this meeting would cover proposals affecting us directly. 2. This meeting or another one should have been held in Rockland County to make it accessible to residents. 3. When we did hear about the proposals in a roundabout manner, we did not have adequate time to study the proposals so we could respond intelligently. In addition, not only was the time for public comment very short, it included the four-day Thanksgiving holiday when people were busy with family. This is no way to run democratic government.

We urge you to hold another meeting on these proposals in Rockland County and provide another public comment period of at least 30 days.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Hermine and Julius Levine



November 26, 2002

Mr. Kar Gleaves
Office of the Asst. Counsel for Ocean Services
National
Oceanic & Atmospheric Adm.
U. S. Department of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Re: Millennium Pipeline Project

Dear Mr. Gleaves:

Each of he four proposed alternate routes to the above referred pipeline's Hudson River crossing would cover approximately 10 to 20 miles of Rockland, going through residential areas and/or along the Palisades Interstate Parkway or the Thruway to either live Piermont Marsh or Hook Mountain. The Piermont Marsh crossing, I s inconsistent with the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. These alternate would have permanent significant and adverse effects on the natural and human lent in Rockland County.

Please extend the timeframe allotted to this project so Rockland County residents will have ample time to study the impact of these crossings on its residents and environment.

Sincerely Santille

Henry and Ilse Gunby

17 Tulip Tree Drive Garnerville, NY 10923

Telephone (845) 429 8274 FAX as above

November 22, 2001

Mr. Kai Gleaves
Office of the Asst.General Counsel for Ocean Services
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
United States Department of Commerce
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Milennium Pipeline across the Hudson River

Dear Si

We are ongtime residents of Rockland County and we wish to express our dissatisfaction with the short period of time the public has to respond to recently proposed changes in the plars for routing the Millennium Pipeline

Both fe eral and state environmental agencies, after years of hearings, have approved a crossing at Haverstraw Bay; we have just learned that your agency is considering "alternative crossings" that will entail the gas pipeline running through more heavily populated and/or environmentally sensitive areas in our county. We need time to review these all ernatives. Please take that into consideration when making your decision.

Thank you,

Very trilly yours,

November 22, 2002

Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Adminstration U.S. Department of Commerce 1305 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 2 910

Re: Opposition to the proposed Millennium Pipeline project

To All Who Are Concerned:

I write to you as a 25 year Croton-on-Hudson resident and a lifelong nature lover and environmentalist, I am sick at heart at the illogically proposal of this Milliennium Pipeline slated to go through our Village wellfields, our arboretum, and along the Con Edison right of way, where electric towers and high power lines are located. The New York Department of State gas denied the Millennium a permit by finding that the project is not consistent with the Coastal Zone Management Act. I understand that the Millennium has the Department of Commerce to override this determination claiming that the pipeline is in the national interest. Phooey! This natural gas pipeline has the potential to cause the following damage:

- Croton V ellfields a reasonable chance of damage to sensitive aquifers that provide drinking water to the village of Croton,
- Bryn May'r Siphon a reasonable potential to turn off the water spigot of millions of NYS & NYC citizens running water within 2 feet of one of the main water supply pipes that is considered fragile,
 - · Risk to Indian Pt. Nuclear Power Plant facility security by construction within one mile of the plant,
- Risk to high power Con Edison transmission lines. Who in there right mind would consider running this pipeline along a Con Edison electric right of way? With the threat of terrorist attacks as a way of life now in the United States, a gas pipeline, Con Edison, AND Indian Point, P-L-E-A-S-E!
- Adverse acrease on the environmental impact in a zone that is environmentally disadvantaged. The route from the FDR Veterans cospital to the edge of Croton-on-Hudson travels through an area that has the following existing environmental impacts: 1) Partial pollution from a waste incinerator in Peekskill, N.Y., 2) Radiation from Indian Pt. Nuclear Power Plant, 3) Exposure to human lives to dioxin, applied by Con Ed on the right of way in 1995, 4) Construction and Demolition debris waste transfer station in the Village of Croton, and 5) Landfill leakage from Croton Point.

In an article on the Millennium Pipeline in the November 24, 2002 Westchester Section of the New York Times, there appears to be a number of preferable alternative routes that deserve further review by you in the Department of Commerce:

To route the pipeline down existing rights of way, like the N.Y. Thruway to a Hudson River crossing at the Tappan Lee Bridge,

Have the pipeline stop at the existing Bowline power plant in Haverstraw, N.Y. Take gas across from Bowline to the Indian Pt. Nuclear plant site through the existing Algonquin pipeline right of way,

Lastly, the article stated that to avoind watershed impacts, Con Edison has stated, under oath, that there are ways to take Millennium gas sought into New York City without any construction to Westchester County.

With these atternative routes to consider, I urge the Department of Commerce to abstain from overriding the Department of State's decision that states that the proposed Millennium Pipeline project jeopardizes people and the environment now and in the future. Please do not allow the "fat cats" to get fatter at the risk of lives and Mother Earth.

Yours in Deep Concern,

Karen Sevell Greenbaum

(aren Sevell Greenbar

48 Mt. Airy Read

Croton, New York 10520

November 18, 2002

The Honorable Donald Evans Secretary United States Department of Commerce 14th & Constitution Ave. NW Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Evans:

I am writing to ask that you take prompt action to support the appeal by the Millennium pipeline that is awaiting action at the Department of Commerce.

In New York today, we bear the burden of some of the highest energy costs in the nation. Each day there are more concerns that we are headed toward shortages unless investments are made in new pipelines and power plants.

As a New York citizen, it disturbs me that a small group of affluent people who don't want the inconvenience of a utility near them are willing to jeopardize the energy security of tens of thousands of others in the state.

This project has been studied and debated for more than four years. The agency in charge of this process – the FERC – issued a decision that this project should be completed. All legitimate environmental concerns have been addressed.

For the benefit of all New York citizens, I urge your support for the Miller nium appeal.

Sincerely,

This Bosino

The Honorable Donald Evans Secretary United States Department of Commerce 14th and Constitution NW Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Evans

I am writing to express my concern about a situation which has the potential to affect my home and my community.

It has recently been brought to my attention that the New York Department of State, in documents relating to the Millennium pipeline appeal now pending before the United States Department of Commerce, has asserted there are "reasonable alternatives" to the approved pipeline crossing of the Hudson River.

Whatever basis the NYDOS has used to determine what is reasonable is not founded in reality as it relates to environmental and community impact. In fact, the so called "Tennessee Pipeline ROW to Sawmill Parkway" alternative is likely not viable even from an engineering perspective.

In its illing, the NYDOS states that the Millennium pipeline could be constructed along an existing Tennessee Gas pipeline that enters Westchester County near the Irving on/Dobbs Ferry municipal border. The existing pipeline, constructed more than 30 years ago, now has residential and commercial structures in high density along either side. This includes new housing, schools and churches arranged in a manner that installation of an additional line is not physically possible.

I am a so angry that the NYDOS would propose such an option without consulting either the cit zens or public officials of our community. There is already an established process for determining routing for projects such as this pipeline, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission spent more than four years studying a wide range of possibilities before certificating a route in Westchester.

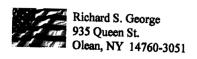
You have been petitioned by Millennium to determine this project's consistency with the policies of CZMA. It is inappropriate for the NYDOS to suggest that a solution is to create unacceptable impacts to my community when a viable route has already been established. I hope you will give this matter due consideration when you make your determination regarding the Millennium project.

Mad Honkley

Sincerely,
Gerard J Donnelly
20 Cornor Court
Legend Hollow
Irvington, NY 10533

1rvington, NY 10533 914-591-7897 ge

-7897 <u>gerry.donnelly@verizon.net</u>



Hondrable Donald Evans Servetary United States Dept. of Commerce

Dear Secretary Evans

For writing to encourage your support in upholding The Federal Energy Regulatory Commissions finding that the Millenium pipeline project is in the public interes After studying this project over four years, including tailed review of the plan for the pipeline evossing that Hudson River, the FERC concluded that Millenium the Hudson River, the FERC concluded that Millenium no be contructed in an everamentally - sensitive moner, and will help significantly in addressing moner, and will help significantly in addressing

we can no longer offered to continually expose ed by energy project simply because a few weath, ed by energy project simply because a few weath, individuals will be temporarily inconvenienced.

This project will improve our national energy a curity, create thousands of jobs and economic de elopement opportunity and will help HewYork to elopement opportunity and will help HewYork on et alean air act requirements.

Idm a life long Republican and firmly believe in the free enterprise system, the Governor's rediction was politically motivated by salf interest in a few votes from this area. This project has been before the people for several years and he waited to just be fore the election to make his interest vention.

I have worked in the natural gas sield to over 50 years, and have seen many

MAD

Robert A. Jordan 140 Scarborough Road Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510

914-762-1438 bobjordan@attglobal.net

November 1, 2002

Room i854
U.S. Department of Commerce 14th & Constitution Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: The Millennium Pipeline in New York

Dear Secretary Evans,

Please do not overturn a correct decision by New York State regarding the Millennium Gas Pipeline crossing of the Hudson River.

y the New York Department of State issued its determination that the proposal insistent with the provisions of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act and the Act's policies.

I am writing as a neighbor of Teatown Lake Reservation, a nature preserve and education center located in the Croton Watershed and in the path of the proposed Millennium Pipeline

Teatown preserve and the watershed would be severely impacted by the proposed pipeline. Teatown's wetlands are currently providing vital protection to the Croton Reservoir by filtering pollution through wetland plants and preventing flooding through the many systems available in the natural environment. Construction of the pipeline would destroy these systems that naturally protect the public drinking water.

Please uphold New York's right to protect its coastline, environment and its drinking water.

Perfect a Jordan

Thank you.

201 NOV 18 MILES

CITIZEN'S PROTEST TO DONALD EVANS U.S. SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

Dear Mr. Evans:

As a committed conservationist, I care deeply about the fate of dolphins and other ocean wildlife.

Deadly pollution and destruction of critical habitat are growing threats to these precious animals. If quick action is not taken, we risk losing the beauty and diversity of our oceans forever.

I urge you to use the power of your office to strengthen this nation's ocean conservation program by committing the resources necessary to effectively manage and enforce the laws protecting dolphins, whales, sea turtles, and other ocean animals. The actions we take at home are critical to our ability to advance ocean conservation around the world.

Sincerely,

L

Signature

rinted Name

1893 Grove

Highan MI 48356